

Minutes of the Personnel Committee

Tuesday, March 21, 2006

Chair Paulson called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Present: Supervisors Duane Paulson (Chair), Bonnie Morris, Genia Bruce, Jeff Morris, Bob Thelen, and Tom Bullermann. Rob Hutton arrived at 1:25 p.m.

Also Present: Chief of Staff Lee Esler, Legislative Policy Advisor Dave Krahn, County Clerk Kathy Nickolaus, Employment Services Manager Sue Zastrow, Financial Analyst Lyndsay Johnson, and Financial Analyst Josh Fudge. Recorded by Mary Pedersen, County Board Office.

Approve Minutes of 3-7-06

MOTION: Thelen moved, second by Bruce to approve the minutes of March 7th. B. Morris and J. Morris asked that corrections be made to the minutes. Motion carried 6-0 as amended.

Schedule Next Meeting Dates

Paulson said the next meeting is scheduled for April 4th. However, the committee will meet on April 11th instead if the only item on the agenda is the ordinance to establish salaries for elected officials.

Chair's Executive Committee Report of 3-13-06

Paulson advised the Executive Committee, at their last meeting, discussed county board sizes in other counties. The committee also reviewed the Internal Audit report on the end user technology fund. (Continued below).

Announcements

Paulson advised that Supervisor Kathleen Cummings will move forward with an ordinance to eliminate base accumulating performance awards in the non-represented compensation system.

Discuss and Accept 2005 Annual Report of the County Clerk

Nickolaus discussed her 2005 annual report as outlined. She indicated her office saw an overall increase of \$24,229 in revenues by year-end 2005, primarily in the area of marriage licenses, passport applications, and fees from local municipalities and school districts for ballot costs. There was also an increase in revenues from the sale of the Public Officials Directories. Nickolaus noted there was a decrease in the total number of marriage license waivers issued because she has become more selective when granting a waiver. This resulted in a decrease in revenues. There were also revenue decreases in the areas of photocopies, marriage license re-issues, garnishment fees, and dog license fees.

MOTION: J. Morris moved, second by B. Morris to accept the 2006 Annual Report of the County Clerk. Motion carried 6-0.

Chair's Executive Committee Report of 3-13-06

(Continued from above). Krahn gave a report on the National Association of Counties Conference he recently attended in Washington, D.C. Among the items discussed was child support and the federal legislature who recently reduced federal incentive payments to counties.

This will result in a reduction of people who collect child support and in the long run it will cost taxpayers even more and hurt families. Krahn said we can already intercept state tax returns towards delinquent child support payments and we're hoping to be able to intercept federal tax returns as well in the near future.

Hutton arrived at 1:25 p.m.

Krahn said many of the block grants, including social service and mental health, are slated for huge cuts and some will be reduced to zero. These cuts will undoubtedly impact County services and will likely be reflected in the County's 2007 budget.

Krahn said the state legislature is done but they will probably be back at the end of April to take up the Taxpayer's Protection Act, a version of the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights. Also, the Governor has decided not to hold a special election to fill State Rep. Scott Jensen's seat.

Preliminary Discussion and Strategy for Establishing Salaries for Elected Officials

The committee reviewed the list of salaries for elected officials in other Wisconsin counties. This issue was discussed and debated. Draft copies of the ordinance entitled "Establish Salaries for Elected Officials" were distributed which Esler discussed as outlined. It is proposed that the salaries for 2007 through 2010 for the County Executive, Clerk of Courts, and Sheriff be increased 2.8%, 1.75%, 3%, and 3%. These increases mirror what the County Board previously approved for the non-represented employees for 2003 through 2006. It is proposed that the salaries for the County Clerk, Register of Deeds, and Treasurer be increased 3% and 3% for both 2007 and 2008. This item will be discussed further and considered at the next Personnel Committee meeting.

MOTION: Bruce moved, second by B. Morris to adjourn at 2:02 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved on: _____

Bonnie J. Morris
Secretary